

A SOUR SUBJECT.

The Senate Devoted a Good Part of Yesterday to the Consideration of Vinegar.

Then Revised the Metals Schedule and Restored the Tax on Lumber.

The House Considered China, Steel Ingots, Blooms, Fences and Wire Rods.

And at the Evening Session Took Up the Legislative Bill.

THE SENATE.

Mr. Davis presented the credentials of Mr. Kenna, elected to succeed him as senator from West Virginia, which were read and filed.

Mr. Vest presented a memorial signed by the most eminent citizens of St. Louis, asking that Gen. Sherman, when he retires, be placed on the retired list with the rank of general.

Mr. Cameron presented the memorial of the state board of health of Wisconsin, asking action by congress to remove the limitations and restrictions heretofore placed upon the work of the national board, and that the latter be given sufficient means to carry on its work.

Mr. Sawyer presented a petition of citizens of Wisconsin for the passage of an interstate commerce bill.

Mr. Windom, from the committee on foreign relations, reported a bill providing for the execution of the provisions of article 2 of the supplemental treaty of 1880 between the United States and China for the suppression of the opium traffic.

Mr. McMill, from the committee on the District of Columbia, reported the house bill for the regulation of licenses in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Cameron, of Wisconsin, introduced a bill to regulate the sale of beer for the protection of pension claims in certain cases.

At the close of the morning business, on motion of Mr. Morrill,

THE TARIFF BILL.

was taken up, the pending question being on agreeing to the amendment in relation to vinegar factories, adopted Saturday in committee on the motion of Mr. Miller of New York. This amendment gave rise to a long and rather spirited debate between Senators Miller, Rollins, Logan, Hill, Bayard, Beck and Pendleton, and was finally voted down—16 to 33.

Mr. Miller, of New York, immediately introduced the amendment as a bill to repeal an act relating to vinegar factories established and operated prior to March 1, 1879, which was referred to the committee on finance.

NORTH CAROLINA REVENUE MATTERS. Mr. McMill presented the majority report of the select committee on revenue to investigate the collection of internal revenue in the sixth collection district of North Carolina; Mr. Vance presented the minority report, and both were ordered printed.

The amendment made in committee of the whole to the internal revenue portion of the bill having been considered, the senate proceeded to consider those made in committee to the tariff schedules.

Mr. Morgan, who had, on Saturday, demanded a separate vote upon each amendment made in the committee of the whole, withdrew the demand in order to facilitate the progress of the bill. In doing so he said this tariff bill was temporary to him. He had intended to offer a substitute for the whole, but he had not time to do so.

Mr. Morgan moved to discontinue the debate on the tariff bill, and possibly he might yet have an opportunity to propose such a bill as a substitute for the one that would come from the house. But if the pending bill should be left in its present form by the senate he would vote for it, because it was a step in the direction of tariff revision and tariff reform.

The president stated that Mr. Conger (who was temporarily absent) had informed him that if Mr. Morgan should withdraw his demand for a separate vote on each amendment he (Mr. Conger) would renew it.

Mr. Conger returned to the chamber, and withdrew the demand.

The provision for levying duty on goods composed of two or more materials was amended so as to provide that the duty shall be assessed at the highest rate at which the component chief value may be assessed.

Mr. Morrill moved to discontinue the debate on the amendment fixing the duty on soap at 50 per cent. ad valorem. The motion was lost, and the amendment was agreed to.

The amendment changing the duty on green and yellow glass bottles, jars, etc., from 30 per cent. ad valorem to 15 cents a pound was disagreed to.

Mr. Conger asked to have the paragraph embracing iron ore and pyrites reserved until to-day, when he hoped to be able to present some essays which would make the injustice of the action taken on this subject.

Mr. Morrill. We expect to finish this bill to-day.

The paragraph was temporarily reserved. Mr. Morrill (with the concurrence of the majority of the committee on finance) proposed to strike out the pig iron paragraph and substitute one reading: "Iron in pigs, iron kettles, speigleiron, wrought or cast scrap iron, 3-10 of 1 cent; but nothing shall be imported from abroad, and under a property adjusted tariff none would be."

A long debate ensued, in the course of which Mr. Morgan said that the cotton growers of the south were making no money—they were barely making a living.

Mr. Brown said that the people of the south made too much cotton. They needed a more diversified industry—more labor devoted to raising provisions and agricultural products other than cotton.

Mr. Morgan asked Mr. Brown whether the depression in the iron trade was not also attributable to over production.

Mr. Brown said the depression was owing to the lowness of the tariff which permitted the importation of large quantities of the foreign product.

Mr. Mitchell said pig iron production lay at the foundation of the iron industries of the country, and that if it were undermined the whole structure would fall. The present duty, 7 per cent, was low, and he did not believe that the industry in Pennsylvania could have any reduction of duty. There was no good reason why a single ton of pig iron should be imported from abroad, and under a property adjusted tariff none would be.

The question of the duty on pig iron concerned not merely that and the other branches of the iron industry, but also the farmers of the west, because the market for 60 per cent. of their food products depended upon the maintenance of our manufactures.

Mr. Sherman's amendment was rejected by the following vote:

AYES. Morrill, Hill, Logan, Brown, Cameron, Davis, W. Va., Frye, Morgan, Hawley.

NOES. Allison, George, Sherman, Bayard, Harrison, Pugh, Beck, Harmon, Van Wyck, Cockrell, Jones, Sawyer, Davis, III., Miller, Cal., Sherman—25.

Mr. Sherman offered the same amendment, changing the rate of duty from 3-10 of 1 cent per pound to 3-10 of 1 cent.

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of \$50 a tonner to Septimia Randolph McKelham, Thomas Jefferson's granddaughter. Referred to previous calendar.

DISTRICT BILLS. Mr. Neal called up the special order, being bills relative to the District of Columbia, and Mr. Kelley raised the question of consideration. The house refused to consider district business.

The speaker laid before the house a letter from the secretary of war transmitting a communication from the chief of engineers and Col. Newton, urging the necessity of an appropriation by the present congress for the removal of flood rock in the East river, New York River.

The house then (at 12:15) went into committee of the whole (Mr. Burrows, of Michigan, in the chair) on

THE TARIFF BILL. Mr. Turner offered an amendment exempting trace chains from duty and placing them on the free list. This aroused discussion, and finally the committee rose for the purpose of final action.

A dispute arose between Messrs. Carlisle and Haskell as to the effect of the clause imposing a duty on steel ingots, &c., the former claiming that it would impose a duty equal to 300 per cent. ad valorem on the ingots.

Mr. McKimley admitted that Bessemer steel was not a new article, but he claimed that no one man would import steel in such forms as to require him to pay 2 cents a pound duty, when in other forms he could import it at 45 per cent. ad valorem.

Mr. Gauthier, of Wisconsin, read a letter from the Horse Shoe company, of Wisconsin, stating that it would be compelled to abandon its plant if this clause in the bill were agreed to without amendment, and he appealed to congress not to be guilty of infanticide.

Mr. Kelley said that the point in the discussion had arrived when the committee must determine whether the manufacture of crucible steel was to be continued in this country; and he concluded by saying that this was the steel from which was manufactured the most delicate watch spring or the most useful agricultural implement.

Mr. Anderson could see no reason why it was not fair that the rate in this clause should be 45 per cent. ad valorem, first, because that was the rate in the tariff on steel; second, because the manufacturer of crucible steel was not a new man; and third, because the manufacturer of crucible steel was not a new man.

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ILLITERACY AND CORRUPTIBILITY. The Delicate Balancing of Power as Represented by the Voters of the Worst Class.

Mr. Henry Randall Waite, of the census office, has a paper in the *International Review* for January on "Corruptible Elements in the Suffrage," which has attracted much attention. The facts and figures are very properly accepted as the best that can be had.

Whether the deductions are the only ones that can be made or not is a question which need not be affected by Mr. Waite's census office facts and figures, which are well adapted for use and accuracy. In order to give the reader a hint of the writer's bent of mind it will be well to quote the closing sentence of the article before giving the statistics. He says that in order to make political reform radical and permanent it is necessary to "deprive the corruptible elements in the suffrage of their present power for evil, which requires, first of all, a reform in the census system, or the substitution in its place of something better, as the result of which the candidates chosen for suffrage, and then for office, will at least represent the choice of the majority; and a patriotic, intelligence, and honesty equal to that of the greater number of those who exercise the right of suffrage."

Mr. Waite's article is here made to serve for political reckoning rather than as a text for argument. He keeps the illiteracy and corruptibility abreast all through the article, and says:

The number of illiterates of voting age is derived from the census of 1880, and the number of voters not illiterate, but whose action is subject to improper influence, added to make the total, is based on the careful estimates of those whose opinion may be accepted as reasonably accurate. Assuming that the voters subject to manipulation are not over one-third of the total, the total of the corruptible vote in the single city of New York in 1880 would have been the million and a half of the great state, of thirty-five votes in the electoral college, and of the national government. In the states of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Connecticut, Maryland, New Jersey, California, Oregon, Nevada, and New Hampshire, the same vote was sufficiently large to have controlled in state elections, and to have decided the casting of one hundred and four votes in the electoral college. Including the state of New York, it was in the power of this dangerous element in 1880 to control the general elections of ten states and one hundred and thirty-nine electoral votes, while, as shown by the table, the results in five other states, with fifty-one additional electoral votes, were in jeopardy.

Both the republican and democratic parties are given the benefit of the tables to figure with, with the hope that the party figuring as an educator will prevail over the purchaser.

The most important table, and one which may be, and doubtless is, accurate in all the figures given is the following, which politicians may study with profit. It shows the changes required in republican states to have reversed the result of the presidential election in 1880:

The following table gives figures equally

City.	Required change in total vote.	Per cent. of total vote.	Electoral vote of state.
New York	10,525	49	35
Philadelphia	2,500	10	10
Boston	2,500	10	10
Pittsburgh	4,000	15	15
New Orleans	15,000	15	15
Havre	11,000	15	15
Baltimore	1,400	7	7
Indianapolis	2,000	8	8
Savannah	1,000	4	4
Richmond	5,000	10	10
San Francisco	5,200	10	10
Portland	2,000	8	8
Portland	500	2	2
Virginia City	500	2	2
Manchester	500	2	2

The following table gives figures equally

State.	Required change in total vote.	Per cent. of total vote.	Electoral vote of state.	Dem.	Rep.	Dem. m.
1. New York	10,525	49	35	190	179	11
2. California	4,000	15	15	10	10	0
3. Pennsylvania	15,000	15	15	10	10	0
4. Pennsylvania	15,000	15	15	10	10	0
5. Wisconsin	14,800	15	10	10	10	0
6. Indiana	1,328	5	10	10	10	0
7. Ohio	17,100	15	10	10	10	0
8. Wisconsin	14,800	15	10	10	10	0
Total	12,000	32	187	182	5	

AFTER A FAIR DIVIDE. Complaints About the Distribution of Funds to Creek Orphans.

A reporter of THE REPUBLICAN saw Mr. Perryman and Capt. Daniel Childers, of the Creek nation, at the Tremont house last night, and learned that the report telegraphed east a few days ago to the effect that the \$300,000 sent out for the Creek orphans and their heirs had been captured by a body of armed men is not true, but that it arrived in safety; but in the distribution of the amount unfair and unscrupulous, not to say dishonest, means were used. One Yoc, a clerk to the government agent, in giving out money due the Indians, they say, treats those of the northern party unfairly. The northern party are those who stood by the government during the rebellion, and the southern party are those who did not.

One Stidham withheld the sum of \$500 from Capt. Childers, saying he wished to give it to an ex-confederate. The lands ceded to the United States government by the Creeks for thirty years ago were in reality sold before the bargain had been closed for fifty cents per acre. The Indians acknowledge that this thing has established a bad precedent. The southern party have been encroaching upon the rights of the northern party ever since the close of the war, and if it does not cease these gentlemen think trouble will most assuredly ensue.

Oklahoma Payne, says these gentlemen say, is backed and pushed forward by certain rail company, and number with certificates of his honesty from the judge of the United States court in whose district he resides. The preparation of this bill was inspired by the recent discovery of a number of attempted frauds, and the bill is intended to prevent such frauds in the future.

The bill introduced by Representative Dunnell provides that no pension clerk or agent shall be detailed by the commissioner of pensions to duty in the state from